Competition due to FDI in print media

†1283. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the possible competition between domestic and foreign newspapers due to their decisions of allowing FDI in print media; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to check such competition and keep the existence of domestic newspapers intact?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The decision to permit FDI upto 26% in Indian entities publishing newspapers and periodicals dealing in news and current affairs does not envisage the publishing of foreign newspapers in India. Hence the question of competition does not arise.

SAG Officers in DD/AIR

1284. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of officers in Senior Administrative Grade and above sanctioned in the subordinate offices of Akashvani and Doordarshan;

(b) whether much before imlementing the recommendations of the Pay Commission, the Ministry of Personnel has issued directives to provide Stenographers of the level of Private Secretary to these officers;

(c) if so, whether the directives have been implemented in subordinate offices of Akashvani/Doordarshan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to implement the directives fully?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharti has informed that there are 39 sanctioned posts in Senior Administrative Grade and above in the subordinate offices of Akashvani and Doordarshan.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.